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Message Text

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60
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 AGR-20 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SWF-02 IO-14 SAJ-01 FRB-03

OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03 AID-20 LAB-06 OIC-04 SIL-01

STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 CEA-02 DRC-01 /143 W
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R 221714Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3259
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS LONDON 10797

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR
SUBJECT: COCOA STATISTICS COMMITTEE MEETING - AUGUST 19-20

REF: STATE 179204

1. STATISTICS COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL COCOA ORGANIZATION (ICCO) MET FOR FIRST TIME AUGUST 19-20 AT HEADQUARTERS OF COFFEE ORGANIZATION IN LONDON. U.S. OBSERVER FROM EMBASSY WAS PRESENT FOR ALL OF MEETING AND PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSION OF STATISTICS. PRESENCE OF U.S. OBSERVER WAS SINGLED OUT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HACKMAN IN OPENING REMARKS AND IT IS CLEAR THAT THE SECRETARIAT WAS PLEASED BY THIS DEMONSTRATION OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE ORGANIZATION.

2. THE MEETING BEGAN AT 11:30 AUGUST 19 WITH A STATEMENT BY HACKMAN WELCOMING OBSERVERS, PARTICULARLY THE U.S. BUT ALSO POLAND. MARTINS (BRAZIL) WAS ELECTED TO CHAIR FOR THE TIME BEING. HE WAS AGREED CANDIDATE OF PRODUCERS LED BY GHANA AND CONSUMERS LED BY THE U.K. BUT PRODUCERS PLAN TO RECONSIDER AND NOMINATE PERMANENT CANDIDATE LATER.
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3. AFTER ADOPTION OF AGENDA (WE ARE POUCHING AGENDA AND RELATED DOCUMENTS TO EB/ORF/ICD) COMMITTEE EMBARKED ON LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONNAIRE TO BE USED TO COLLECT STATISTICS AND FORMAT IN WHICH STATISTICS WOULD BE PUBLISHED. DISCUSSION OCCUPIED THE REMAINDER OF AUGUST 19. A NUMBER OF MINOR REVISIONS IN THE PRESENTATION OF STATISTICS WERE DISCUSSED, AND IT WAS TENTATIVELY AGREED THAT THE MAIN STATISTICS BULLETIN WOULD BE PUBLISHED QUARTERLY, PERHAPS WITH BRIEF MONTHLY SUMMARIES AND POSSIBLY WITH AN ANNUAL SUMMARY, AS SUGGESTED BY CANADA.

4. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, THE COMMITTEE TOOK NOTE OF A DOCUMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION ON PRODUCTION QUOTAS. IT THEN WENT OVER STATISTICAL INFORMATION PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIAT (COVERING PRODUCTION, GRINDINGS, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS), AND MEMBERS CORRECTED SOME OF THE FIGURES. THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO SET UP AN EXPERT WORKING GROUP TO DEFINE WHAT CONSTITUTES COCOA STOCKS, AND TO DETERMINE THE BEST WAY TO OBTAIN ACCURATE STOCK FIGURES. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WERE FAVORABLE TO A SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL TO PREPARE LONG-TERM SUPPLY AND DEMAND PROJECTIONS, BUT ASKED THE SECRETARIAT TO DEFINE THE SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT IN WRITING.

5. THE STATISTICS COMMITTEE WILL MEET AGAIN BRIEFLY ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, TO CLEAR UP SOME MINOR MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ICCO COUNCIL WHICH FINISHES ITS SESSION ON AUGUST 30. AN EMBASSY OBSERVER WILL ATTEND THIS NEXT STATISTICS COMMITTEE MEETING.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COCOA, TRADE, MEETINGS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON10797
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740232-0492
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740827/aaaaawpj.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 179204
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAY 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COCOA STATISTICS COMMITTEE MEETING - AUGUST 19- 20
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR
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Type: TE
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